

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please rewrite the pending claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method of treating or preventing cancer in a human comprising administering to said human, in which such treatment or prevention is desired, a bcl-2 antisense oligonucleotide in one or more cycles of therapy, each cycle of therapy comprising ~~at a dose of 0.01 to 50 mg/kg/day for a period consisting of~~ daily for 2 to 13 days.
2. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the bcl-2 antisense oligonucleotide is administered for a period consisting of 3 to 9 days.
3. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the bcl-2 antisense oligonucleotide is administered for a period consisting of 4 to 7 days.
4. (currently amended) The method as in any of Claims 1-3 comprising administering 4 to 9 mg/kg/day of a the bcl-2 antisense oligonucleotide.
5. (currently amended) The method as in any of Claims 1-3 comprising administering 5 to 7 mg/kg/day of a the bcl-2 antisense oligonucleotide.
6. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1 comprising further administering one or more cancer therapeutics.
7. (previously presented) The method of Claim 6 wherein administration of the cancer therapeutic follows administration of the bcl-2 antisense oligonucleotide.
8. (previously presented) The method of Claim 6 wherein administration of the cancer therapeutic precedes administration of the bcl-2 antisense oligonucleotide.
9. (previously presented) The method of Claim 6 wherein the cancer therapeutic is administered concurrently with the bcl-2 antisense oligonucleotide.

10. (previously presented) The method of Claim 6 wherein said cancer therapeutic is a chemoagent, radiotherapeutic, immunotherapeutic, cancer vaccine, anti-angiogenic agent, cytokine, gene therapeutic, or hormonal agent.

11. (previously presented) The method of Claim 10, wherein said cancer therapeutic is a chemoagent, and wherein said chemoagent is dacarbazine, docetaxel, paclitaxel, cisplatin, 5-fluorouracil, doxorubicin, etoposide, cyclophosphamide, fludarabine, irinotecan or cytosine arabinoside (Ara-C).

12. (currently amended) The method of Claim 6 or Claim 10 wherein said cancer therapeutic is administered at a ~~reduced~~ dose which is below the effective dose when the cancer therapeutic is administered without the bcl-2 antisense oligonucleotide.

13. (previously presented) The method as in any of Claims 1-3 or 6, wherein said administration is by oral, intravenous infusion, subcutaneous injection, intramuscular injection, topical, depo injection, implantation, time-release mode, intracavitary, intranasal, inhalation, intratumor, or intraocular administration.

14. (previously presented) The method as in any of Claims 1-3 or 6, wherein said cancer is a cancer of the hematopoietic system, skin, bone and soft tissue, reproductive system, genitourinary system, breast, endocrine system, brain, central nervous system, peripheral nervous system, kidney, lung, respiratory system, thorax, gastrointestinal and alimentary canal, lymph nodes, pancreas, hepatobiliary system, or cancer of unknown primary site.

15. (previously presented) The method as in any of Claims 1-3 or 6, wherein said cancer is non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Hodgkin's lymphoma, leukemia, colon carcinoma, rectal carcinoma, pancreatic cancer, breast cancer, ovarian cancer, prostate cancer, renal cell carcinoma, hepatoma, bile duct carcinoma, choriocarcinoma, cervical cancer, testicular cancer, lung carcinoma, bladder carcinoma, melanoma, head and neck cancer or brain cancer.

16. (currently amended) The method as in any of Claims 1-3 or 6, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is from 10 to ~~35~~ 40 bases in length and is complementary to the pre-mRNA or mRNA ~~encoding~~ of the bcl-2 gene.

17. (previously presented) The method of Claim 16, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least two phosphorothioate linkages.

18. (previously presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises the sequence TCTCCCAGCGTGCGCCAT (SEQ. ID. NO.:17).

19. (currently amended) A method of treating or preventing cancer in a human comprising administering to said human, in which such treatment or prevention is desired, one or more chemoagents and a bcl-2 antisense oligonucleotide in one or more cycles of therapy, each cycle comprising at a dose of 0.01 to 50 mg/kg/day daily for 2 to 13 days, wherein the chemoagent is dacarbazine, docetaxel, paclitaxel, cisplatin, 5-fluorouracil, doxorubicin, etoposide, cyclophosphamide, fludarabine, irinotecan or cytosine arabinoside (Ara-C), and wherein the chemoagent is administered at a ~~reduced~~ dose which is below the effective dose when the chemoagent is administered without the bcl-2 oligonucleotide.

20. (currently amended) The method of Claim 19, wherein said ~~cancer~~ therapeutic chemoagent is paclitaxel and said dose is 10 to 135 mg/m²/cycle.

21. (currently amended) The method of Claim 19, wherein said ~~cancer~~ therapeutic chemoagent is docetaxel and said dose is 6 to 60 mg/m²/cycle.

22. (currently amended) The method of Claim 19, wherein said ~~cancer therapeutic~~ chemoagent is fludarabine and said dose is 2.5 to 25 mg/m²/cycle.

23. (currently amended) The method of Claim 19, wherein said ~~cancer therapeutic~~ chemoagent is irinotecan and said dose is 5 to 50 mg/m²/cycle.

24. (canceled)

25. (canceled)

26. (canceled)

27. (canceled)

28. (canceled)

29. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a bcl-2 antisense oligonucleotide, for administration at a dose of 0.01 to 50 mg/kg/day daily for 2 to 13 days; in combination with a ~~reduced dose of a~~ cancer therapeutic agent for administration at a dose which is below the effective dose when the cancer therapeutic agent is administered without the bcl-2 antisense oligonucleotide, wherein said agent is dacarbazine, docetaxel, paclitaxel, cisplatin, 5-fluorouracil, doxorubicin, etoposide, cyclophosphamide, fludarabine, irinotecan or cytosine arabinoside (Ara-C); and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

30. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a bcl-2 antisense oligonucleotide, for administration at a dose of 10 to 50 mg/kg/day daily for 2 to 13 days; in combination with a ~~reduced dose of a~~ cancer therapeutic agent for administration at a dose which is below the effective dose when the cancer therapeutic agent is administered without the bcl-2 antisense oligonucleotide, wherein said agent is dacarbazine, docetaxel, paclitaxel, cisplatin, 5-fluorouracil, doxorubicin, etoposide, cyclophosphamide, fludarabine, irinotecan or cytosine arabinoside (Ara-C); and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

31. (currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 29 or Claim 30, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is from 10 to ~~35~~ 40 bases in length and is complementary to the pre-mRNA or mRNA ~~encoding of~~ the bcl-2 gene.

32. (previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 31, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least two phosphorothioate linkages.

33. (previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 32, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises the sequence TCTCCCAGCGTGCGCCAT (SEQ. ID. NO.:17).